Overcrowding in Mumbai Suburban Trains

258. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Mumbai suburban trains are overcrowded and have become a death trap and a source of harassment to women; and

(b) whether Government have any immediate plans to bring relief to the Mumbai commuters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) It is a fact that suburban trains in Mumbai are overcrowded during morning and evening peak hours. However, these trains are not death traps or a source of harassment to women. Accommodation in suburban trains is earmarked for ladies apart from running ladies specials during peak hours. Police and Railway Protection Force including lady staff have been provided on platforms and in the ladies compartments especially during night time.

(b) Increase in number of coaches is a continuous process and is undertaken to meet the needs.

Highspeed Bullet Trains

259. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that proposals to establish high-speed bullet trains are under the active consideration of the Ministry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a techno-economic feasibility project has been prepared on the subject; and

(d) if so, the details of the same and the outcome of the exercise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.